

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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FOR COUNSELOR NIMITZ AND EUR/ASST SEC VEST ONLY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PGOV, CY, IS, US
SUBJECT: CALL ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU

1. I PAID MY FIRST SUBSTANTIVE CALL ALONE ON PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU FOR 45 MINUTES MORNING OF APRIL 10. I BEGAN BY EXPRESSING MY APPRECIATION TO THE PRESIDENT FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH HE HAD PERSONALLY GUIDED PUBLIC OPINION IN ITS REACTION TO THE ADMINISTRATION'S CALL FOR THE LIFTING OF THE ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY. I ALSO EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE SPLENDID SUPPORT WE HAD RECEIVED FROM THE NATIONAL GUARD AND POLICE FOR THE PROTECTION OF AMERICAN PROPERTY AND PERSONNEL. THE PRESIDENT GAVE EVERY ASSURANCE THAT WE COULD COUNT FULLY ON HIS GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT AND EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN CYPRUS THOROUGHLY UNDER CONTROL. HE TOLD ME THAT THE RECENT ARRESTS (18 ARRESTS WERE MADE OVER THE WEEKEND) HAVE INDICATED THAT THOSE WHO WISH TO CREATE UNLAWFUL ACTS ON THE ISLAND ARE NOW WELL FINANCED. FURTHER DISCUSSION BROUGHT OUT THAT HE BELIEVES THE SOURCE IS APPARENTLY EITHER ISRAELI OR FROM THE GERMAN CSU, REFERRING TO FRANZ JOSEPH STRAUSS BY NAME. I TOLD HIM I HAD GREAT DIFFICULTY COMPREHENDING WHAT WOULD BE THE OBJECTIVE OF EITHER OF THESE PARTIES. HE SAID HE TOO COULD NOT

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 00962 102208Z

UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY WERE ATTEMPTING TO ACCOMPLISH. HE TOLD ME HE WOULD ASK THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR TO TURN OVER TO ME THE THE INFORMATION THEY HAD OBTAINED.

2. AT THIS POINT HE SAID HE REALIZED WE HAD OUR OWN INTELLIGENCE SOURCES REGARDING DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ISLAND BUT HE WANTED TO ASSURE ME I COULD SEND THEM ALL HOME BECAUSE ANY TIME I WISHED

TO HAVE ANY INFORMATION EITHER INTERNAL OR EXTERNAL I HAD ONLY TO COME TO HIM AND HE WOULD GIVE IT TO ME.

3. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU WENT ON TO ASSURE ME THAT CYPRUS WAS A GENUINE PART OF THE WEST AND WOULD ALWAYS REMAIN SUCH. IT WAS NOT CONCEIVABLE TO HIM THAT IT COULD BE ANYTHING ELSE. HE SAID HIS OWN FATHER HAD LIVED THE BETTER PART OF HIS LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES AND REMINDED ME THAT THE U.S. HAD MORE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY SUPPORTED CYPRUS' EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM BRITAIN UNTIL EDEN PERSUADED DULLES TO TAKE A "HANDS OFF" ATTITUDE.

4. WE, OF COURSE, DISCUSSED THE ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSAL TO LIFT THE ARMS EMBARGO ON TURKEY. HE REFERRED TO THE DISILLUSIONMENT THAT HAD BEEN FELT TOWARD THE ADMINISTRATION. I EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR THE ADMINISTRATION TO MOVE THIS WAY IN ORDER TO GET OUT OF A BLIND ALLEY. NOW WE AT LEAST HAD A CHANCE FOR POSSIBLE MOVEMENT FROM THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE. THE PRESIDENT EXPRESSED SOME SKEPTICISM REGARDING THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS AND I REMINDED THAT IT WAS IN THE NATURE OF THINGS THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS WOULD PUT FORWARD AN INITIAL POSITION THAT WOULD GIVE THEMSELVES ROOM FOR MANEUVER DURING ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS. COMMENT: I CAME AWAY REASSURED THAT THE TURKISH CYPRIOT PROPOSALS WILL NOT BE REJECTED OUT OF HAND AND THAT HE FEELS A GENUINE DESIRE TO FIND SOME ACCOMODATION. END COMMENT.
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 NICOSI 00962 102208Z

5. THE PRESIDENT SPOKE VERY WARMLY OF HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER IN NEW YORK, DESCRIBING IT AS AN EXCELLENT MEETING DESPITE THE FACT THAT KYPRIANOU HAD BEEN INDISPOSED AT THE TIME.

6. IN CLOSING, THE PRESIDENT ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD ALWAYS BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE ME AT ANY TIME AND THAT IT WAS HIS HOPE THAT WE WOULD NOT ONLY HAVE CLOSE OFFICIAL RELATIONS BUT ALSO BECOME CLOSE PERSONAL FRIENDS. COMMENT: I FOUND THE PRESIDENT MORE FORTHCOMING THAN I HAD EXPECTED. THE SESSION TURNED OUT TO BE ALMOST A LOVE FEAST. CONTRARY TO MY EARLIER EXPECTATIONS THAT THE GOC DID NOT REALLY WISH TO SEE A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, I NOW BELIEVE THERE MAY BE A CHANCE THAT SOME PROGRESS COULD BE MADE IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. END COMMENT.
STONE

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